

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended): An optical compensation plate comprising an optical compensation layer, wherein an anti-cracking layer of a curable adhesive agent is laminated directly on at least one surface of the optical compensation layer, said optical compensation layer is a cholesteric layer whose constituent molecules are aligned in the form of a cholesteric structure, and said curable adhesive agent comprises at least one thermosetting resin-based adhesive selected from the group consisting of an epoxy resin, an isocyanate resin and a polyimide resin,

the constituent molecule of the cholesteric layer is produced from a liquid crystal monomer and a chiral dopant,

the liquid crystal monomer is selected from the group consisting of: a compound represented by the below formula (4); a compound represented by the below formula (5); a compound represented by the below formula (6); a compound represented by the below formula (7); a compound represented by the below formula (8); a compound represented by the below formula (9); a compound represented by the below formula (10); a compound represented by the below formula (11); a compound represented by the below formula (12); a compound represented by the below formula (13); a compound represented by the below formula (14); a compound represented by the below formula (15); a compound represented by the below formula (16); a compound represented by the below

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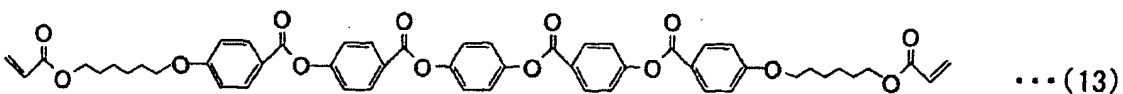
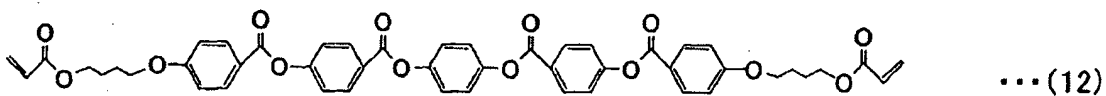
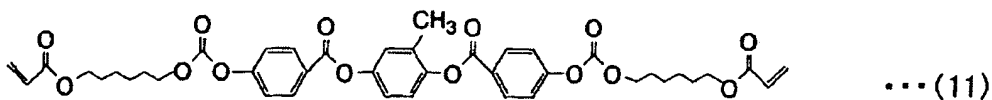
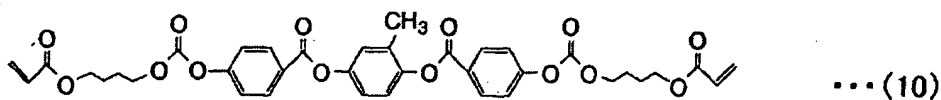
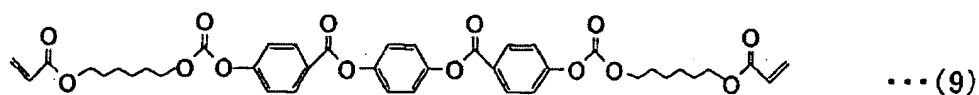
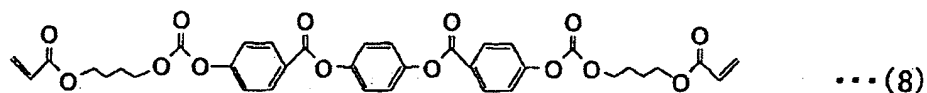
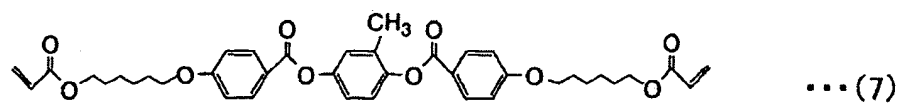
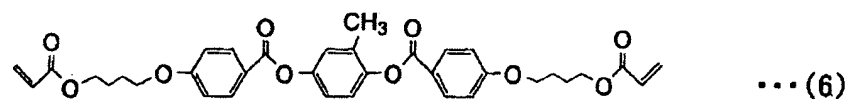
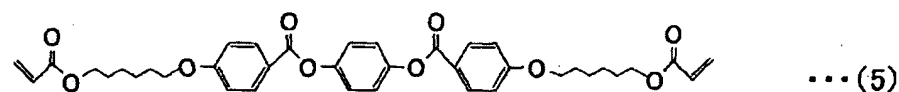
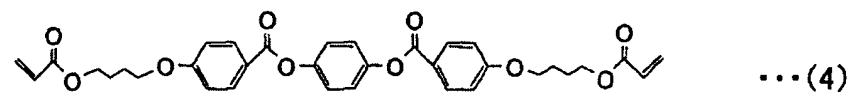
formula (17); a compound represented by the below formula (18); and a compound represented by the below formula (19), and

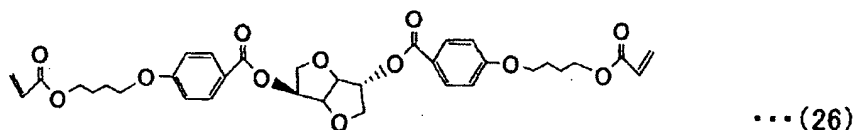
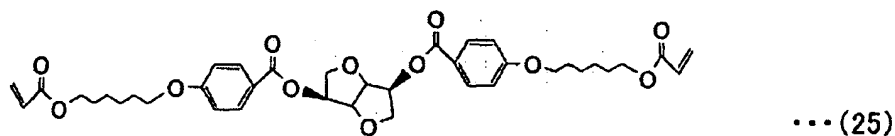
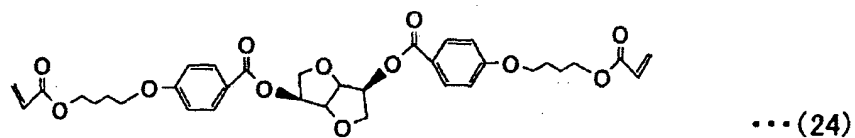
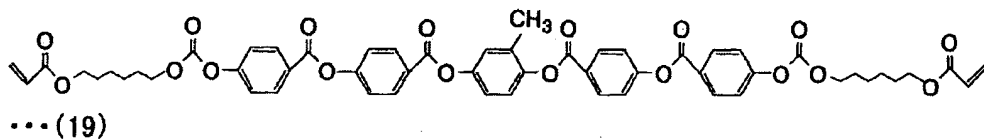
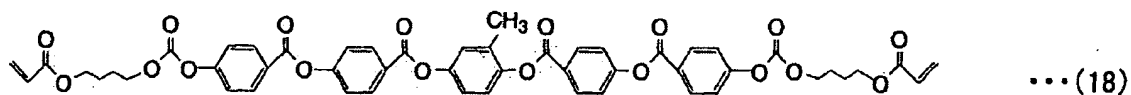
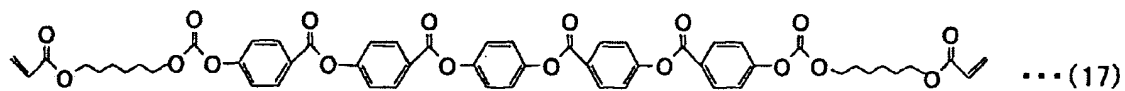
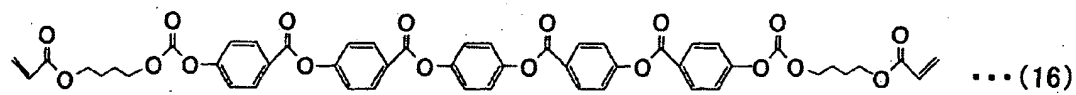
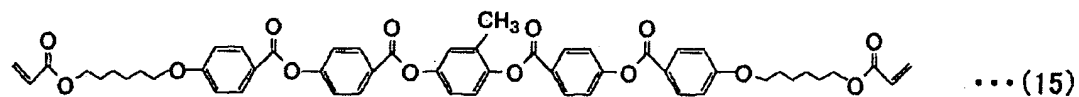
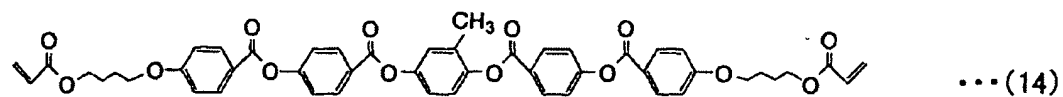
the chiral dopant is selected from the group consisting of: a compound represented by the below formula (24); a compound represented by the below formula (25); a compound represented by the below formula (26); a compound represented by the below formula (27); a compound represented by the below formula (28); a compound represented by the below formula (29); a compound represented by the below formula (30); a compound represented by the below formula (31); a compound represented by the below formula (32); a compound represented by the below formula (33); a compound represented by the below formula (34); a compound represented by the below formula (35); a compound represented by the below formula (36); a compound represented by the below formula (37); a compound represented by the below formula (38); a compound represented by the below formula (39); a compound represented by the below formula (40); a compound represented by the below formula (41); a compound represented by the below formula (42); a compound represented by the below formula (43); and a compound represented by the below formula (44)

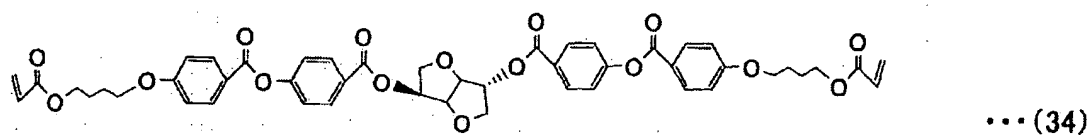
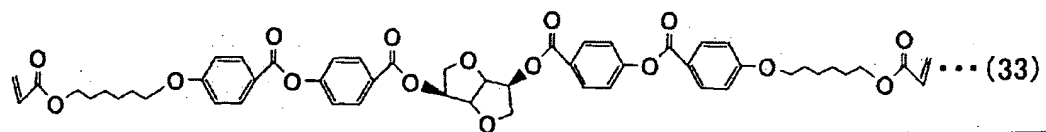
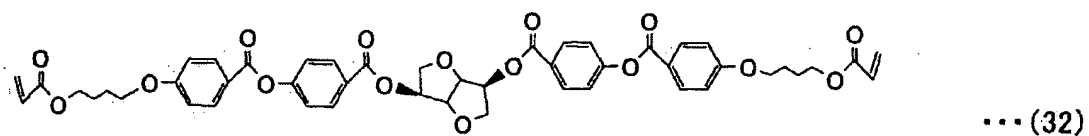
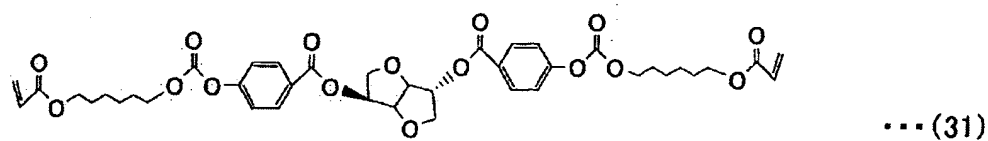
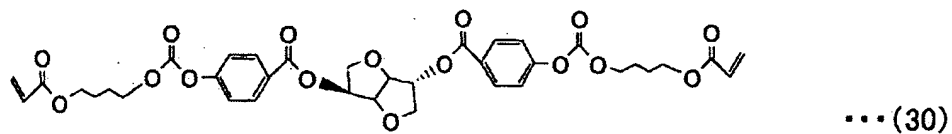
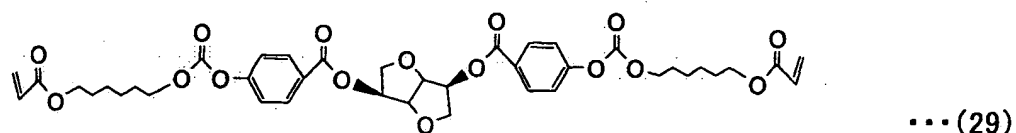
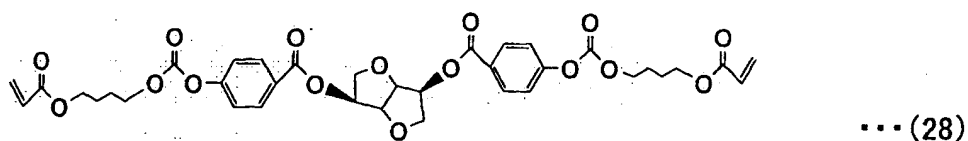
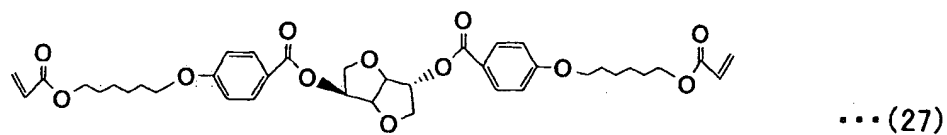
Amendment

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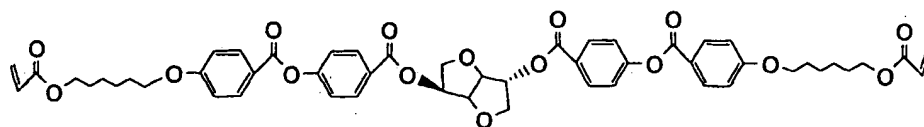




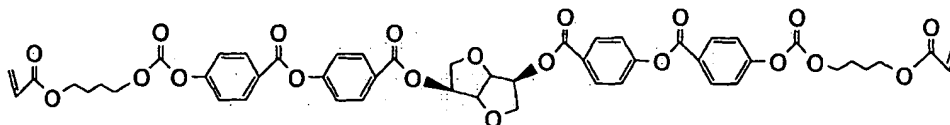
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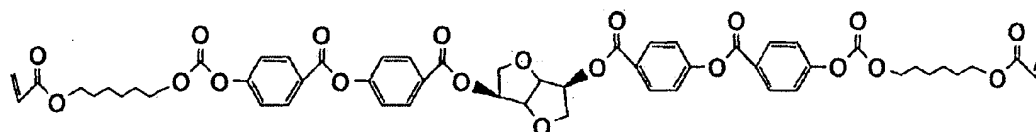
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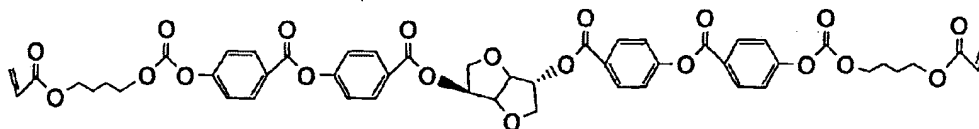
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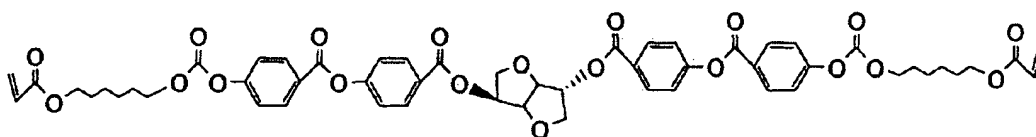
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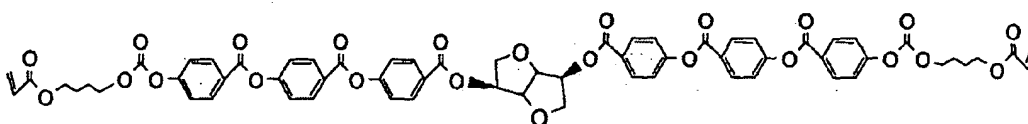
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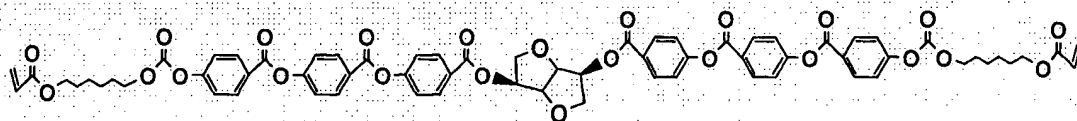
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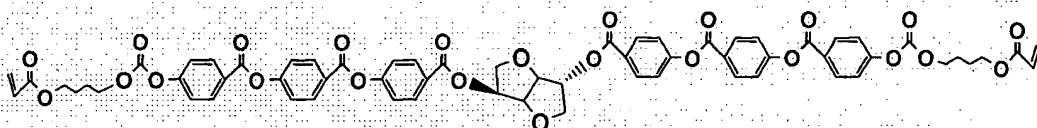
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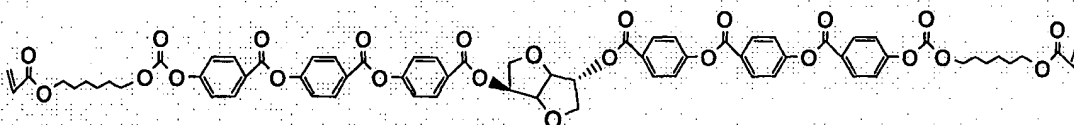
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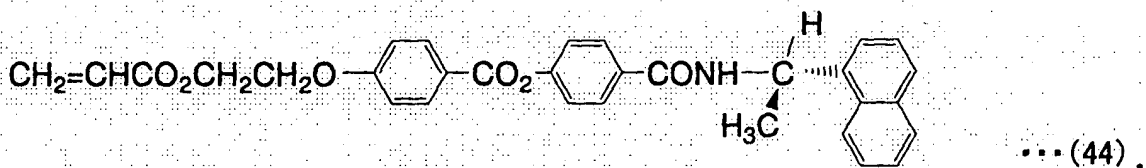
... (41)



... (42)



... (43)



... (44)

2. (Original): The optical compensation plate according to claim 1, wherein a microhardness of the anti-cracking layer ranges from 0.1 to 0.5 GPa.

3-5. (Cancelled)

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6. (Original): The optical compensation plate according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of the anti-cracking layer ranges from 0.1 to 20 μm .

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Amended): The optical compensation plate according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of the cholesteric layer ranges from 0.5 to 10 μm .

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended): The optical compensation plate according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 1, wherein a helical pitch of a cholesteric alignment ranges from 0.01 to 0.25 μm .

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original): A polarizing plate comprising a polarizer, a transparent protective layer and the optical compensation plate according to claim 1, wherein the polarizer and the optical compensation plate are laminated together via the transparent protective layer.

13. (Original): The polarizing plate according to claim 12, wherein the optical compensation plate and the transparent protective layer are directly adhered to each other by the anti-cracking layer in the optical compensation plate.

14. (Original): The polarizing plate according to claim 12, wherein, in the optical compensation plate, a pressure-sensitive adhesive layer is laminated on the surface of the optical compensation layer opposing to the surface on which the anti-cracking layer is laminated.

15. (Original): The polarizing plate according to claim 14, wherein a material of the pressure-sensitive adhesive layer is at least one resin-based pressure-sensitive adhesive selected from the group consisting of an acrylic resin, a rubber-based resin and a vinyl-based resin.

16. (Previously Amended): The polarizing plate according to claim 12,
wherein the optical compensation plate is configured by laminating an anti-cracking layer on both surfaces of the optical compensation layer, and
one of the anti-cracking layers and the polarizer are laminated together via the transparent protective layer.

17. (Original): The polarizing plate according to claim 16, wherein, in the optical compensation plate, a pressure-sensitive adhesive layer and a liner are further disposed in this order on the surface of the anti-cracking layer on which the polarizer is not laminated.

18. (Original): The polarizing plate according to claim 14, wherein a liner is further disposed on the surface of the pressure-sensitive adhesive layer.

19. (Previously Presented): A liquid crystal panel, comprising a liquid crystal cell and the optical compensation plate according to claim 1.

20. (Previously Presented): A liquid crystal display comprising the liquid crystal panel of claim 19.

21. (Previously Presented): An image display apparatus, which is at least one image display apparatus selected from the group consisting of an electroluminescence (EL) display, a plasma display (PD) and a field emission display (FED), comprising the optical compensation plate according to claim 1.

22. (Previously Presented): A liquid crystal panel, comprising a liquid crystal cell and the polarizing plate according to claim 12.

23. (Previously Presented): A liquid crystal display comprising the liquid crystal panel of claim 22.

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24. (Previously Presented): An image display apparatus, which is at least one image display apparatus selected from the group consisting of an electroluminescence (EL) display, a plasma display (PD) and a field emission display (FED), comprising the polarizing plate according to claim 12.